

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of managing a project, comprising:
 - (a) receiving data representing attributes of a project from a project manager, the project comprising at least one task;
 - (b) receiving data identifying attributes of the task;
 - (c) assigning the at least one task to at least one task-responsible person, wherein assigning the at least one task comprises providing candidate data representing attributes of candidates for the task-responsible person, the candidate data comprising candidate names, field of expertise, workload and contact information;
 - (d) automatically providing a notice to the task-responsible person, the notice identifying the assignment of the task;
 - (e) receiving at least one task report from the corresponding task-responsible person;
 - (f) providing the corresponding task-responsible person and the project manager read-write access to the task report; and
 - (g) providing at least one other person read-only access to the task report.
2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein
 - the project comprises a plurality of tasks;
 - step (b) includes receiving data identifying attributes of a plurality of tasks; and
 - step (e) includes receiving a plurality of task reports from a plurality of corresponding task-responsible persons.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (c) includes assigning an additional task to the at least one other person having read-only access to the task report.
4. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
automatically providing a notice to the project manager upon completion of one of the tasks.
5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the data identifying attributes of the task contain a due date, the method further comprising:
automatically providing a notice to the task-responsible person, the notice identifying the due date, the notice being provided a predetermined number of days before the due date.
6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the task comprises at least one item, the method further comprising:
 - (a) receiving data representing attributes of the item;
 - (b) assigning the at least one item to at least one item-responsible person, wherein assigning the at least one item comprises providing candidate data representing attributes of candidates for the item-responsible person, the candidate data comprising candidate names, field of expertise, workload and contact information;
 - (c) automatically providing a notice to the item-responsible person, the notice identifying the assignment of the item;
 - (d) receiving at least one item report from the corresponding item-responsible person;

- (e) providing the corresponding item-responsible person, the corresponding task-responsible person, and the project manager read-write access to the item report; and
- (f) providing at least one other person read-only access to the item report.

7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the task comprises a plurality of items, wherein:

step (a) includes receiving data representing attributes of a plurality of items; and
step (d) includes receiving a plurality of item reports from a plurality of corresponding item-responsible persons.

8. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein step (b) includes assigning an additional item to the at least one other person having read-only access to the item report.

9. (original) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
automatically providing a notice to the corresponding task-responsible person upon completion of one of items.

10. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the data identifying the item contain a due date, the method further comprising:
automatically providing a notice to the item-responsible person, the notice identifying the due date, the notice being provided a predetermined number of days before the due date.

11. (currently amended) A computer-implemented system for managing a project, comprising:

means for receiving data representing attributes of a project from a project manager, the project comprising at least one task;

means for receiving data identifying attributes of the task;

means for providing candidate data representing attributes of candidates for a task-responsible person, the candidate data comprising candidate names, field of expertise, workload and contact information;

means for receiving data identifying an assignment of each task to the ~~at least one~~ task-responsible person;

means for automatically providing a notice to the task-responsible person, the notice identifying the assignment of the task;

means for receiving at least one task report from the corresponding task-responsible person;

a database storing data representing attributes of the project, data identifying attributes of the task, data identifying an assignment of the at least one task, and the task report;

means for permitting the corresponding task-responsible person and the project manager to edit the task report; and

means for permitting at least one other person to have a read-only access to the task report.

12. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein:
the project comprises a plurality of tasks;

the means for receiving attribute data identified attributes of each of a plurality of tasks;
and

the report receiving means receives a plurality of task reports from a plurality of
corresponding task-responsible persons.

13. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein means for receiving assignment data
identifies the assignment of at least one other person having read-only access to the task report.

14. (original) The system of claim 11, further comprising:
means for automatically providing a notice to the project manager upon completion of
one of the tasks.

15. (original) The system of claim 11, wherein the data identifying attributes of the task
contain a due date, the system further comprising:
means for automatically providing a notice to the task-responsible person, the notice
identifying the due date, the notice being provided a predetermined number of days before the
due date.

16. (currently amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the task comprises at least one
item, the system further comprising:
means for receiving data representing attributes of the item;

means for providing candidate data representing attributes of candidates for an item-responsible person, the candidate data comprising candidate names, field of expertise, workload and contact information;

means for receiving data identifying an assignment of the at least one item to the at least one item-responsible person;

means for automatically providing a notice to the item-responsible person, the notice identifying the assignment of the task;

means for receiving at least one item report from the corresponding item-responsible person;

a database storing data representing attributes of the task, data identifying an assignment of the at least one item, and the item report;

means for permitting the corresponding item-responsible person, the corresponding task-responsible person, and the project manager to edit the item report; and

means for permitting at least one other person to have a read-only access to the item report.

17. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein the task comprises a plurality of items, wherein:

the attribute data receiving means receives data representing attributes of a plurality of items; and

the report receiving means receives a plurality of item reports from a plurality of corresponding item-responsible persons.

18. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein the assignment data receiving means identifies the assignment of the at least one other person having read-only access to the item report.

19. (original) The system of claim 16, further comprising:
means for automatically providing a notice to the corresponding task-responsible person upon completion of one of items.

20. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein the data identifying the item contain a due date, the system further comprising:
means for automatically providing a notice to the item-responsible person, the notice identifying the due date, the notice being provided a predetermined number of days before the due date.

21. (currently amended) A computer readable medium with computer program code, wherein, when the computer program code is executed by a processor, the processor performs a method of managing a project, comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving data representing attributes of a project from a project manager, the project comprising at least one task;
- (b) receiving data identifying attributes of the task;
- (c) assigning the at least one task to at least one task-responsible person, wherein assigning the at least one task comprises providing candidate data representing attributes of candidates for

the task-responsible person, the candidate data comprising candidate names, field of expertise, workload and contact information;

- (d) automatically providing a notice to the task-responsible person, the notice identifying the assignment of the task;
- (e) receiving at least one task report from the corresponding task-responsible person;
- (f) providing the corresponding task-responsible person and the project manager read-write access to the task report; and
- (g) providing at least one other person read-only access to the task report.

22. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein
the project comprises a plurality of tasks;
step (b) includes receiving data identifying attributes of a plurality of tasks; and
step (e) includes receiving a plurality of task reports from a plurality of corresponding task-responsible persons.

23. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein step (c) includes assigning an additional task to the at least one other person having read-only access to the task report.

24. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises automatically providing a notice to the project manager upon completion of one of the tasks.

25. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the data identifying attributes of the task contain a due date, wherein the method further comprises automatically providing a notice to the task-responsible person, the notice identifying the due date, the notice being provided a predetermined number of days before the due date.

26. (currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the task comprises at least one item, wherein the method further comprises:

- (a) receiving data representing attributes of the item;
- (b) assigning the at least one item to at least one item-responsible person, wherein assigning the at least one item comprises providing candidate data representing attributes of candidates for the item-responsible person, the candidate data comprising candidate names, field of expertise, workload and contact information;
- (c) automatically providing a notice to the item-responsible person, the notice identifying the assignment of the item;
- (d) receiving at least one item report from the corresponding item-responsible person;
- (e) providing the corresponding item-responsible person, the corresponding task-responsible person, and the project manager read-write access to the item report; and
- (f) providing at least one other person read-only access to the item report.

27. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the task comprises a plurality of items, wherein:

step (a) includes receiving data representing attributes of a plurality of items; and

step (d) includes receiving a plurality of item reports from a plurality of corresponding item-responsible persons.

28. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein step (b) includes assigning an additional item to the at least one other person having read-only access to the item report.

29. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the method further comprises automatically providing a notice to the corresponding task-responsible person upon completion of one of items.

30. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the data identifying the item contain a due date, wherein the method further comprises automatically providing a notice to the item-responsible person, the notice identifying the due date, the notice being provided a predetermined number of days before the due date.

31. (currently amended) A computer-implemented patent opinion integration system, comprising:

means for receiving a plurality of patent related data, wherein the patent related data comprises at least the patent claims and the patent specification;

means for sending a request for an a patent opinion associated with the patent related data to a predetermined person;

means for receiving the patent opinion details;

a database for associating the patent opinion with the patent related data and for storing the patent opinion and the patent related data.

32. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented information integration system, comprising:

a database for receiving a plurality of patent data, wherein the patent data comprises at least the patent claims, the patent specification and the patent abstract;

the database for receiving a plurality of entity data;

the database for receiving a plurality of evidence data;

the database associating the patent data, the entity data, and the evidence data to each other and storing the patent data, the entity data, and the evidence data.

33. (cancelled)

34. (currently amended) The system of claim 32 ~~22~~, wherein the entity data comprises entity-identifying data, entity-products data, and entity-finance data.

35. (currently amended) The system of claim 32 ~~22~~, wherein the evidence data comprises product-analysis data and associated publication data.

36. (currently amended) The system of claim 35 ~~25~~, wherein the product-analysis data comprises an outside reverse-engineering report and an internal reverse-engineering report.

37. (currently amended) The system of claim 35 ~~22~~, wherein the associated publication data comprises paper-publication data and website-publication data.

38. (currently amended) The system of claim 32 ~~22~~, further comprising:
means for receiving a search query;
means for searching the database; and
means for presenting a search result.

39. (New): The system of claim 31, wherein the patent opinion concerns whether a specific patent is infringed by a competitor of a user of the system.

40. (New): The system of claim 31, wherein the patent opinion is prepared as part of a defensive project concerning a specific patent identified by a competitor.

41. (New): The system of claim 31, wherein when an issue is identified regarding whether a machine purchased from a vendor is covered by a specific patent, the request sending means sends an e-mail to the vendor to request a patent opinion from the vendor regarding the specific patent.

42. (New): The system of claim 41, wherein the request includes a specific question to be addressed by the patent opinion and a specific format for the opinion.